



Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2016, No. 2

February 2016



A view down the right side of the hall at the Schertz Civic Center during SARC's Radio Fiesta on January 9, 2016 – The word: BUSY



A view down the center of the hall at the Schertz Civic Center during SARC's Radio Fiesta on January 9, 2016 – The word is still: BUSY

Radio Fiesta -Another Way to Spell Success

SARC's Radio Fiesta officially opened at 8:00 a. m. on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at the Schertz Civic Center. It actually started at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2016 as individuals and vendors who had bought tables started to move in. Around 8 SARC members supported this effort until 8:00 p. m. that night. At 6:30 a. m., set up re-commenced with even more individuals and vendors setting up tables in the civic center and tailgate displays outside the civic center. Around a dozen SARC members supported this effort. At 7:30 a. m., the sale of same day admissions and additional raffle tickets commenced. Finally, at 8:00 a. m., Rowena Archer, Chairperson, Radio Fiesta Committee said *Let'm in!*

As the pictures to the left show, it rapidly became busy. Overall, there were 99 tables in use by individuals (75) and vendors (24). There were also tables for ARRL and Army MARS. Outside, there were at least 13 tailgaters which was so many one or two had to set up on the other side of the parking lot. Overall, there were 569 paid admissions. Of that, 134 were pre-registered, and 435 were same day admissions. Attendance was just plain up. The weather this year was cool, but sunny – really pleasant – and was undoubtedly a positive factor. The cold, nasty weather last year was a noticeable negative factor last year so it was great having the good, helpful weather this year. (Continue on Page 6)

End Fed HF Antenna Program at Next Meeting

Our next meeting is at Grady's Barbeque, 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00 p. m. on Thursday, February 11, 2016. Lester Cray, K5MUG, will present a class on how to build an End Fed HF antenna in a match box based on a design of the Hawaii Emergency Amateur Radio Club.

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
2	R		AE5AS		San Antonio, TX		Feb

TO
W5SC

Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, our Treasurer and Chairperson of the Radio Fiesta Committee, is the glue that held us together for Radio Fiesta. It's success is due to her preparatory work and follow-up work. While it was gratifying to see so many SARC members come out of the woodwork to help her the night before and then the day of Radio Fiesta, the gaggle of assisting SARC members would have been an aimless mob except for Rowena's leadership during Radio Fiesta. She solicited individuals and vendors to buy tables or become tailgaters, she publicized it with flyers, and pre-registered numerous individuals as well as renewed memberships. I thank her and invite you to thank her as well.

There were numerous helpers. I will not attempt to list everyone involved, but there were three key coordinators: J. C. Smith, N5RXS, Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, and Pat Knight, AD5BR. J. C. Smith, N5RXS, coordinated the programs presented to attendees. Doing this took a load off of Rowena and allowed her to focus on other aspects of Radio Fiesta. Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, took charge of the tailgate area. Along with members that Bob recruited, this took another load off of Rowena who did not have to go outside to work with tailgaters. Pat Knight, AD5BR, as Chairperson of the Volunteer Examiners, undertook all aspects dealing with license testing, which is a very important aspect of Radio Fiesta. She lined up eleven Volunteer Examiners and made license testing a non-issue for Rowena. Also, Pat sold raffle tickets for four hours until she had to go over to the Schertz Public Library for the license testing. My thanks to all three for their leadership on Programs, Tailgating, and Licensing.

Again, thank you to Rowena who has done this for many years and is now retiring from Radio Fiesta as Chairperson. She tells me that Radio Fiesta 2017 activities must start in the near future. I am in the market for a new Radio Fiesta Chairperson. If you are interested, let me know.



Harold

AE5AS

Bexar Wire

Published monthly by:
San Antonio Radio Club

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The due date for articles is the Friday before the first Monday of the month.

2016, No. 2 Bexar Wire February 2016

San Antonio Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2016

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p. m.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then introduced himself as Harold AE5AS and then in accordance with SARC custom asked everyone else to introduce themselves.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then reviewed the printed agenda for meeting with the members present and asked if there were any modifications. There being no modifications suggested, Harold Fleischer AE5AS announced the printed agenda as orders for the meeting by unanimous consent.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, then stated that whereas the minutes for the last meeting on Nov 12, 2015 had been distributed in the January 2016 Bexar Wire newsletter that unless there were corrections or objections that we would dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as written by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports:

President:

1. The following appointments were announced:

Newsletter Editor: Harold Fleischer, AE5AS

Only until a permanent Newsletter Editor can be found.

Webmaster: David Espinoza, W5QS

Education and Training Chairperson: Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW

Emergency Communications Chairperson: JC Smith, N5RXS

Executive Chairperson: Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, (By Constitution)

Finance and Review Chairperson: JC Smith, N5RXS

Field Day Chairperson: Joe Bruno, W5AUQ

JOTA Chairperson: Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW

Membership Chairperson: Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ

Radio Fiesta Chairperson: Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ

Only through the end of January 2016 to complete Radio Fiesta 2016. A new chairperson will be needed for Radio Fiesta 2017.

VE Chairperson: Pat Knight, AD5BR

Comments on appointments:

Chairpersons are to appoint their own committee, unless specified otherwise in the Constitution and By-Laws, and report members to the Secretary.

The Executive Committee will work to establish a budget before the next regular meeting for pre-view to the membership. All spenders of money including Committee Chairpersons will be canvassed for input.

2. Constitution and By-Laws: Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that was tasked to revise at the Dec 7, 2015 Board of Directors meeting. One requested change had to do with dissolution of the Club if that became necessary. This and other revisions were included in a draft sent to the Board of Directors on Dec 29, 2015. It is necessary to finalize changes 30 days prior to the next Board of Directors to comply with the current Constitution on changes. This means for a Board of Directors meeting on Feb 11, 2016 that changes need to be stabilized by Jan 12, 2016. Consequently, right after Radio Fiesta, he will follow-up with Board members to see if the changes can be stabilized.
3. Cameras: Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, asked every Committee Chair to always carry a camera and take pictures to help the newsletter editor and webmaster out on publicizing activities. He needs to take Board member and Chairperson pictures after the meeting tonight to help out the webmaster.

Vice President

1. Rodney Brown, AA5RB, passed out a Survey to all members to be completed by the end of the meeting to help him determine what types of things to pursue when it comes to programs.
2. Rodney Brown, AA5RB, announced that Lester Cray, K5MUG, would present a class on how to build an End Fed HF antenna in a match box based on a design of the Hawaii Emergency Amateur Radio Club.

Secretary: Harold Fleischer, AE6AS, announced that the Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW, Secretary was ill and was trying to recover in time for the Radio Fiesta. Lloyd will be working to create a consolidated file of key Club documents such as the Articles of Incorporation, Constitution and By-Laws, etc., such that the Secretary will keep the official copy and all other officers will have reference copies. This will improve the likelihood that these key documents will survive as offices change.

Treasurer: Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, submitted a written financial report and stated that membership renewals were underway. The report was accepted.

Newsletter Editor: Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, stated that:

1. The first Bexar Wire newsletter for 2016 was sent out by Archer, KF5JCZ, on Jan 4, 2016.
2. The plan is to issue it on the first Monday of each month with the minutes of the last meeting so the minutes do not have to be read at meetings, with an article on the last meeting, with an article on the next meeting, and various reminders. Anyone with information to go out should contact the newsletter editor.

Webmaster – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that David Espinoza, W5QS, could not be here tonight, but had made a number of updates to the website recently and will make monthly updates to keep it current based on input. A question was asked if there was a monthly deadline. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, will talk with David Espinoza, W5QS, about a monthly deadline.

Chairman of the Board Report:

1. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, had a conflict and could not be here tonight. He asked if J. C. Smith, N5RXS, the outgoing Chairman of the Board, had anything to say.
2. J. C. Smith, N5RXS, said the meeting on Dec 7, 2016 was a fine meeting. They made a decision to buy a HF radio and revise the Constitution and By-Laws.
3. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, stated that it was Bob Rodriguez's plan to hold the next Board of Directors meeting after the regular membership meeting on Feb 11, 2016, with the agenda being budget and Constitution and By-Laws.

Committee Reports

Education and Training – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, was planning on doing 6 Technician, 3 General, and 1 Extra license classes this year. He will coordinate with Pat Knight, AD5BR, for VE testing support of each class. Lester Cray, K5MUG, stated that he will support Technician testing in 2016 like he did in 2015. He will donate HTs to raffle to individuals who pass the Technician testing after Bob Rodriguez's Technician License Class and attend the next SARC regular membership meeting – you must be present to win.

Emergency Communications – J. C. Smith, N5RXS, said that he is looking for a great year in San Antonio for emergency communications. He stated that ARES next meets on the first Tuesday of February (2nd) at the Red Cross.

Executive – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, asked the Executive Committee to meet briefly after this meeting to pick a day to meet about the budget. This meeting will be about 2 weeks out to allow the Treasurer to absorb Radio Fiesta results and then share last year's budget and financial data before the budget meeting.

Finance and Review – J. C. Smith, N5RXS, said that Mike Check, K5UCQ, and him would get with Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, after the Radio Fiesta, and set a date to do the finance review such that they would be ready to report at the Feb 2016 Board of Directors meeting.

Field Day –

1. Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, had just accepted the appointment this morning, but stated that he is looking forward to doing the job.
2. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, related that in the absence of a chairperson that he had recruited Richard Elder, WB5ACN to be the Government Liaison member of the committee,

Lester Cray, K5MUG, to be the New Radio Testing member of the committee, Paul Guido, N5IUT, to be the Computers and Reports member of the committee even though he will be on a cruise during Field Day, Harold Fleischer, AE5AS to be the Computer and Reports Assistant member of the committee, and Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, to be the Food Coordinator of the committee.

3. Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, also reported that J. C. Smith, N5RXS, had coordinated with the Treasurer and that he had the Alinco DX-SR9 Hybrid SDR Transceiver 10-160M 100W SSB, CW, and FM, 40W AM, which the Board had decided to buy, ordered for delivery at Radio Fiesta.
4. Lester Cray, K5MUG, stated that he was looking forward to testing the new radio for the Club to include phone capabilities and keeping track of it. It was noted that a 30A DC Power Supply was needed for it.

JOTA - Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, said JOTA for Scouts would be at McKinsey Scout Park on Saturday, Oct 15, 2016, this year.

Membership – New Members Welcome for licenses & help on database

1. Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, reported that he had acted on the idea of giving successful license test candidates a congratulations letter from SARC along with an invitation to join for free for the rest of the calendar year. He had trued up the letter, and Pat Knight, AD5BR, said that she would do it at the end of VE testing.
2. He is also planning to download the public FCC amateur radio license information and zeroing in on new licensees in San Antonio to which he wants to send post cards inviting them to join SARC. He has asked for \$100 in the budget to support this. He asked anyone who could help him use Excel to do the sorting of the data to see him after the meeting. Tom Kraft, HE2HIQ, said that he could help with that.

Nominating (Inactive-no appointments)

Radio Fiesta – Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, reviewed work assignments for Radio Fiesta:

1. On Friday, Jan 8, 2016, she would need people from 4:00 p. m. until 8:00-9:00 p. m. to help with the check in with vendors. She got enough volunteers for that such that she should have 4-5 people other than herself and Lew Archer, W0YVY, there.
2. On Saturday, Jan 9, 2016, she will get there by 6:30 a. m., and she will need help checking in vendors. She needs 2 for the lobby doors as no others will be opened. Bob Rodriguez, K5AUW, will be there to handle tailgaters, and he gets his own crew. Sufficient members started that they will be there at 6:30 a. m. to cover the lobby doors for check-in.
3. Starting at 7:00 a. m. on Saturday, she will need 4 people counting herself to handle pre-registrations and cash admissions. Enough people stepped up to cover that until late in the morning. She needs 2 people to cover the raffle ticket table. Pat Knight, AD5BR, has volunteered to work that position from 7:30 a. m. to 11:30 a. m. Another person stepped up to be the second person for that.
4. Richard Elder, WB5ACN, and J. C. Smith, N5RXS, will work the Club Table for the duration of the show.
5. Pat Knight, AD5BR, is handling the coordination of VEs for testing starting at noon at the Schertz library.

At the end of the review, Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, was satisfied that she had enough commitments to cover all positions.

VEC – Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, reported that Pat Knight, AD5BR, could not be at the meeting tonight and said for her:

1. Six test sessions including Radio Fiesta planned for the year for the general public.
2. Additional sessions will be held to support licensing classes.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements For The Good of Amateur Radio

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, announced the fifty-fifty drawing will be right after the meeting adjourns.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p. m. because the approved agenda of the meeting had been completed.

Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ
for Lloyd Swartz, KF5ZHW
Secretary

Radio Fiesta – Another Way to Spell Success

(Continued from Page 1.

It takes as much work to put on Radio Fiesta when the weather is bad as when it is good, so good is definitely preferred.

In addition to the tables in the hall and the tailgaters, Radio Fiesta offered two series of informative program tracks. In spite of the great handouts available about them, there were constant questions about where they were. This in itself showed that there was interest in the programs and that they were worth the effort. The superlative raffle prizes to include an Alinco DX-SR8T attracted a lot of attention. While everyone gets one raffle ticket with a paid admission, many more raffle tickets were sold at the raffle table. While the hall was winding down around noon, the license examination part of Radio Schertz was just getting started at the Schertz Public Library. About 25 people took amateur radio license exams offered by SARC's Volunteer Examiner Committee. They were pretty evenly split between those trying to get the Technician license for the first license and those trying to upgrade to General or Amateur Extra. This activity continued to 2:30 p.m., which is a half hour after the end of the Radio Fiesta in the Schertz Civic Center.

(See more Radio Fiesta pictures staring on page 7.)

SARC's New HF Radio

SARC has a lot of property: tent, tables, chairs, generators, lights, computers, antennas. An anomaly is that SARC did not have any radios.

The SARC Board of Directors fixed that by getting an Alinco DX-SR9 Hybrid SDR Transceiver 10-160M 100W SSB, CW, and FM, 40W AM from Main Trading Company. A power supply and antenna tuner were purchased at the same time. Main Trading Company is a vendor that attends Radio Fiesta and provides us excellent pricing on the amateur radios that SARC raffles off at Radio Fiesta. J. C. Smith, N5RXS, handled the negotiations with Main Trading Company and obtained comparable pricing that we get on the radios for the raffle.

Lester Cray, K5MUG, has volunteered to test this new radio equipment and be its custodian. Whenever looking for this radio, power supply, and antenna tuner instead of saying *Where's Waldo* say *Where's Lester*. Seriously, the Board of Directors appreciates Lester taking on this task as they don't want the first time this equipment is out of the box to be Field Day 2016.

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Pat Knight, AD5BR, and Lester Cray, K5MUG, selling raffle tickets for the radio prizes at the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016



Lester Cray, K5MUG, selling raffle tickets for the radio prizes at the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016. Note how full the raffle jar is. The raffle was really popular. The boxes with the radios are to the left.



Tailgating at Radio Fiesta on January 9, 2016 – Collins KWM2A set in two fitted Samsonite Suitcases (Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, Photo)



The ARRL table at the Radio Fiesta in the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016



Diana MacGregor, K5DNG, Raffle Grand Prize Winner of an Alinco DX-SR8T HF Transceiver at the Radio Fiesta in the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2015 (Lester Cray, K5MUG, Photo)



Tailgating at Radio Fiesta on January 9, 2016 – “All Bands, All Modes”: MFJ Portable Single Band Rigs with Power Supply and Battery (Tom O'Brien, AB5XZ, Photo)



The Army MARS table at the Radio Fiesta in the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016



SARC's very important door guards during Radio Fiesta at the Schertz Civic Center the evening of January 9, 2016



The mid-morning crowd in the rear aisle at Radio Fiesta at the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016



The left side of the mid-morning crowd at Radio Fiesta at the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016



License testing by SARC's Volunteer Examiners at the Schertz Public Library as a part of Radio Fiesta on January 9, 2016



J. C. Smith, N5RXS, working on making a sale at the SARC Club Table inside the hall at the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016



License testing by SARC's Volunteer Examiners, Blue Team in background and Red Team in foreground, at the Schertz Public Library as a part of Radio Fiesta on January 9, 2016



Cross hall diagonal view of the mid-morning crowd at Radio Fiesta at the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016



Pat Knight, AD5BR, SARC's Volunteer Examiners Committee Chairperson supervising licensing testing



Rowena Archer, KF5JCZ, the happy Radio Fiesta Chairperson at the Schertz Civic Center on January 9, 2016

Field Day 2015 Results

SARC participates as a 4A in Field Day. The 4 refers to the maximum number of simultaneously transmitted signals. The A refers to a Club or 3-person group operating transmitters and receivers off of non-Commercial power. SARC used 4 transceivers for simultaneous transmissions and ran everything off of generators.

You earn points for a variety of things starting with the number of simultaneous transmitters and generators. Contacts generate points although CW and Digital contacts have multipliers as opposed to FM contacts. This year there were 155 entries in 4A. W5SC earned a total of 1,998 points. This placed in the lower half of the 4A group. The tail end Charlie in 4A had 542 so we were about 4 times more active than them. The overachievers had 17,038 points. They obviously don't subscribe to the position

that we have which is we are an eating club with a radio problem.

SARC did accomplish its Field Day objectives starting with having a good time. We also ate well. We got our equipment out and put it into service. Members were able to get their personal equipment out and put it in service. We got to mentor new operators in different aspects of amateur radio operation. Most importantly we bonded as teams as we worked together to put up our collection of vertical and dipole antennas and then as worked as teams making contacts and logging calls.

(ARRL is the source of information for SARC's participation in Field Day 2015 when it comes to its results and comparative results.)

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: David Espinoza W5QS
W5qs@att.net
 210-287-5036

Amateur Radio License Classes

Multiple classes planned for 2016.

For more information, contact:
 Bob Rodriguez K5AUW
 Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for next 12 Months

February 11, 2016
 March 10, 2016
 April 14, 2016
 May 12, 2016
 June 9, 2016
 July 14, 2016
 August 11, 2016
 September 8, 2016
 October 12, 2016
 November 10, 2016
 December (None)
 January 5, 2017

Meetings are held at Grady's Barbeque,
 327 E. Nakoma Dr., San Antonio, TX
 78216 at 7:00 p. m.

Come early and eat with other members
 coming early.

License Testing Dates for 2016 and early 2017

February 27, 2016
 April 23, 2016
 June 25, 2016
 August 27, 2016
 October 22, 2016
 January 7, 2017

Times and locations along with required
 document information can be found on
 SARC's website.

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a
 part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordi-
 nator (VEC) organization so all of the Vol-
 unteer Examiners in SARC are duly author-
 ized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

Field Day 2016

Setup: Friday, June 24, 2016
 Operations: Saturday, June 25, 2016
 & Sunday, June 26, 2016

*Where SARC proves they are an
 eating group with a radio problem.*

More information to follow, but hold these
 dates.

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air

This year's date is Oct 15, 2016.

For more information, contact:
 Bob Rodriguez K5AUW

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency commu-
 nications, contact:
 JC Smith N5RXS

Radio Fiesta 2017

January 7, 2017
 Schertz Civic Center
 More information to follow